

There was no threat or aggressive display however and all four displayed a very gentle and calm temperament. Apart from its interesting commensalism, the occurrence of the species in the wild for the first time outside the Manas-Sankosh complex may be noted, although the species has been helped by man into its new habitat. The breeding success of the primates in Umananda may

indicate the start of a new colony near the south bank of the Brahmaputra.

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2. OBSERVATION ON AN UNUSUAL SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR IN ASIATIC LION (*PANTHERA LEO PERSICA*)

I chanced to see an unusual sexual behaviour in a male Gir Lion. On 2nd February, 1988 when I was visiting Amritval Settlement area with a group of other officers, a mating pair was observed at Dhanatal area. I returned alone, a few hours later, to observe them more critically.

When the male was ready to copulate, he got up and walked to the female and mounted her. It was obvious that the female was non-receptive. The lioness kept sitting on its belly, tail flat on the ground, and not in the usual receptive posture, for copulation. The male mounted almost half way, over her back.

After this, the male kept rubbing his penis on the female's back for 10 to 15 seconds. Having done so the male got up quickly and ejaculated on the ground, very close to the female. This he did a couple of times.

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3. JACKAL (*CANIS AUREUS*) HUNTING COMMON LANGUR (*PRESBYTIS ENTELLUS*) IN KANHA NATIONAL PARK

The Jackal *Canis aureus* has been considered to live mainly on carrion or on small prey in the Indian jungles. I have witnessed in Kanha National Park, Madhya Pradesh (22° 17'N, 80° 38 'E) in the last few years its skills as a hunter. I feel they are worth recording and I do not think that hunting of common langur *Presbytis entellus* by the jackal *Canis aureus* has ever been reported from India.

I first saw a jackal killing a langur in February, 1991 in Kanha meadows and I thought it was a stray

case, but since then I have recorded four cases of langur hunting by jackals. The common langur *Presbytis entellus* is an intelligent animal and to hunt them a predator needs great skill and stealth which the jackals of Kanha seem to have mastered over the years. The operation of hunting langurs usually involves a small pack of jackals consisting of three to five individuals which would locate a troop of langurs in the meadows frolicking and running around seemingly relaxed. The pack would slowly